(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to make police friendly to law abiding citizens and behave with them in a decent manner; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are the State subjects as per the Constitution. It is State Governments' responsibility to maintain the law and order in their territory and to ensure safety and security of their people. State Governments are supposed to take action against the erring policemen in such cases. Some incidents of police excesses have been reported. However, it will not be correct to say that such complaints have been increasing at alarming rate.

(b) and (c) Various Courses/training programme meant for police personnel of all ranks incorporate the inputs in curriculum such as 'Protection of Human Rights', 'use of scientific techniques in investigations', 'crime against women', 'crime against SC/ST and weaker sections'. BPR and D has also been organizing courses on Scientific Investigation for the benefit of Police personnel of States and Central Police Forces. BPR and D has also been organizing courses on Image building, Good Governance, Ethical Issues, Use of Technology in Crime Prevention, Police: Reaching out to Minorities etc. to sensitize senior Police Officers on these relevant issues. Supreme Court of India has also issued directions on aspects of functioning and conduct of police in Writ Petition (Crl.) No. 539 of 1986, D.K Basu *Vs* the State of West Bengal and others regarding procedural safeguards to be adopted for effecting arrest and detention of an accused in custody. The State Governments have already been addressed to implement the above directions of the Supreme Court.

Pension to martyrs of peasant movement of Patharughat, Assam

315. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 28th January in the year 1894 about 140 Nos. of peasants were killed in the pre- Independence period by the British Army in the Peasant Revolution at 'Patharughat' in the district of Darrang, Assam;

(b) whether they were declared as martyrs of Indian Independence movement;

(c) whether their family members were given any recognition or any political pension etc.; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per the information furnished by the Government of Assam, some peasants who were protesting against the increase in land revenue were killed during police firing on 28th January, 1894 at Patharughat in the district of Darrang, Assam. However, there is no conclusive record regarding the number of persons killed and wounded in the firing.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) State Government has informed that as per the Assam Swatantrata Sainik Relief Rule 1988, only the freedom fighters who participate in the National Movement under Mahatama Gandhi since 1921 are eligible for Freedom Fighters Pension etc.

Updating NRC in Assam

316. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to update the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam State;

(b) whether Government has any proposal to stop the issue of the photo identity card to the voters in Assam till the completion of the update of NRC; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) The Government of Assam has initiated some action for updating of National Register of Citizens (NRC) 1951 on the basis of the relevant records. Central Government has provided a sum of Rs. 3.02 crore to Government of Assam for computerization of the relevant records. State Government has submitted modalities for updating of NRC in January 2009, which is under construction.

(b) and (c) The Government of Assam is of the view and conveyed to the Election Commission of India that Election Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) and Photo Electoral Rolls (PER) in the State of Assam be undertaken after the updating of NRC in Assam.

Combating Naxal menace by concerted efforts

317. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two day eastern and central region consultation organized by Commission on Centre-State Relations focused on combating Naxal menace by concerted efforts of various Maoist infested States;

(b) if so, whether Maoists have also infiltrated NGOs;

(c) whether Chhattisgarh Naxalites are attracting Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the steps States have taken and to what extent Centre has agreed to provide help and assistance;

(e) whether Maoists and Naxal States have agreed for joint operation and training to meet extremists threats; and

(f) whether his Ministry has reviewed North East law and order situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.